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STATE OF DELAWARE
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DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: Board of Geologists

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Friday, March 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

**PLACE: 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware
Conference Room B, Cannon Building**

MINUTES APPROVED: June 4, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

William Schenck, President, Professional Member
Scott Blaier, Vice-President, Professional Member
Kimberly McKenna, Secretary, Professional Member
Lorene Athey, Public Member
Patricia Ennis, Public Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Allison Reardon, Deputy Attorney General
Renee' Holt, Administrative Specialist II

MEMBERS ABSENT

Amos Aiken, Public Member

PUBLIC PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Schenck called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes from the February 5, 2010 meeting. Ms. Athey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schenck to table the minutes pending further revisions. The motion was unanimously carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Newsletter –

The Board reviewed the draft Newsletter provided by Ms. Holt. Ms. McKenna and Mr. Blaier will coordinate to prepare the portion for Continuing Education. Ms. Holt is drafting wording for the section on Renewal, and Online Renewal Attestation. Mr. Schenck corrected the agenda to read "GIT" program and not "AIT" program. Mr. Schenck requested the GIT portion of the newsletter remain as the final paragraph in the message from the Board President. Ms. Holt will prepare the information for the New ASBOG Examination

registration process and compile to data for the last page of the newsletter. Mr. Schenck asked Ms. Holt to have a final draft prepared for the May meeting.

Strategic Plan – GIT Program – Mr. Schenck reported that he had collected all the regulations for all the states that have a GIT program. Mr. Schenck distributed the regulations to Ms. McKenna and Mr. Blaier for review. Mr. Schenck, Mr. Blaier, and Ms. McKenna chose 3 states to build a model after and Mr. Schenck submitted those to Ms. Reardon to review to use as a model for Delaware. Mr. Schenck stated he would write a draft GIT program that would be modeled after the states with the best options and provide it to the Board for review. Ms. Reardon advised the draft cannot be discussed outside a public meeting.

Ms. Reardon reported that of the states chosen the language and the states all sounded similar. The states were Oregon, Idaho, Alabama and Mississippi in the code of ethics issues. Ms. Reardon reported that what was found lacking was once the certificate was received, there was nothing identifying oversight for the trainee. Ms. Reardon stated all of the states gave a certification, but didn't outline what the GIT could do. Mr. Schenck stated Delaware may be unique because they have a statement about unlicensed practice. Mr. Schenck advised, when the Board develops the GIT, he would like the Board to deal with these letters the Board receives and use them to make a more formal connection between the supervisor and the trainee; clarifying if the trainee moves to another job they must have another supervisor.

Ms. Reardon stated the Board is allowing the trainee to practice geology under supervision. Ms. Reardon advised that it appeared that the certification is acknowledged, but if the trainee doesn't get a license in 10 years they have to reapply and there is nothing defined as to the process afterwards.

Ms. Athey asked if there had been any review of other professions that have similar training programs such as Architects, Nursing Home Administrators, Engineers, or Landscape Architects. Ms. Reardon clarified that the Board is trying to put a restriction to clarify that anything else is unlicensed practice.

Mr. Schenck stated he would review the Engineers and the Architects to look at their training programs. Ms. Reardon stated the time period for limiting the practice is good. Ms. Reardon also advised the Board to consider the goal of having the program. Mr. Schenck stated there was a part in Oregon's program for discipline and thought the Board should review the language.

After further discussion by the Board on the different programs currently in place, Ms. Reardon advised the Board the current unlicensed practice statute under §3617(b) would either be done away with or revised to coordinate with the Geologist In Training program.

The Board continued the discussion on what the Board's goals in establishing a program

Mr. Schenck tabled the discussion and stated he would review how both the engineers and the architects address the issue. Ms. Reardon agreed to research the possibility of using a form of certificate of authorization in lieu of a Geologist In Training program.

Ms. Holt will send the letter for the outreach to colleges to the same distribution list as in previous mailings.

Ms. Schenck made the motion to amend the agenda to add the review of the tabled application Girish Bhatt, seconded by Mr. Blaier. The motion was unanimously approved.

On the goal to increase travel funds, Mr. Schenck reported he sent correspondence to Mr. Collins requesting to meet and review increase in travel funds. Ms. Holt will coordinate the meeting. Mr. Schenck stated it is disappointing that the Board has now missed the Fall meeting and the Committee on Education annual meeting in April, 2010.

Ms. Reardon reviewed Mr. Bhatt's file and gave counsel regarding the rules and statute regarding the options for actions the Board could take regarding the application. Mr. Schenck clarified the approval would be to sit for the FG and PG if everything else was in order. Mr. Schenck stated the approval to sit for the ASBOG from 2004 expired and Mr. Bhatt must reapply and be reviewed to be approved to sit for both the FG and PG examination. Ms. Holt reviewed the minutes from the December 5, 2003 meeting where Mr. Bhatt's original application was reviewed.

Mr. Schenck made a motion to approve Girish Bhatt to sit for both the FG and PG examination and pending the results of passing grades, grant him a license. Mr. Blaier seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Application for Licensure – Initial

There were no applications to review.

Review of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity

Jeffrey Seier – Mr. Blaier reviewed the application. Mr. Blaier stated Mr. Seier met all the educational, and examination requirements, however, the two of the referees did not reference work in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Blaier made a motion to table the application for reciprocity pending receipt of two additional references to attest to work in Pennsylvania or allow Mr. Seier to amend the application to new licensure and provide two additional references. Ms. McKenna seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Review of Application to Take the ASBOG Examination

There were no applications to review.

Review of Continuing Education Applications

Ms. McKenna reviewed the application from Kristopher Crist for the course "Joint Meeting – Northeastern & Southeastern Annual Meeting" – The Geological Society of America. Ms. McKenna stated the provider was on the approved CE providers list. Ms. McKenna made a motion to approve the application for 12 CEUs, seconded by Mr. Schenck. The motion was unanimously approved.

ASBOG Examination Update

Ms. Holt reported that there were three candidates taking the FG examination and one taking the PG examination.

New Process for Receiving Exam Registrations

Ms. Holt reported on the status of the development of the new process to process exam payments for candidates through ASBOG.

Wall Certificates

Mr. Schenck signed the wall certificates.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (for discussion only)

There was no public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. pending the confirmation of a meeting room.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Schenck made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blaier to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renee' M. Holt".

Renee' M. Holt
Administrative Specialist II
DE Board of Geologists